

# The Vincennes Voice

“...The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight...” (Matt. 3:3)

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## SOME THINGS TO REMEMBER

Larry R. Ping II

**T**his Memorial Day weekend serves as a time to “honor the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military.” While it is good to remember and be thankful for those who made these ultimate sacrifices, it is also a good time to recall the Bible calls man to remember as well. Are you remembering these things of the Bible?

**1) Remember My Faults.** Gen. 41:9 records this statement of the chief butler who had forgotten Joseph’s request (Gen. 40:14; Gen. 40:23). We would do well to follow in the mold of the butler and remember “all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23).

**2) Remember All The Commandments Of The Lord, And Do Them.** The wandering Israelites were admonished to do this in Num. 15:39. Today, we are subject to the “law of Christ” (Gal. 6:2), and to it we owe our obedience (Heb. 5:8-9). Study

hard, long, and diligently (II Tim 2:15).

**3) Remember His Marvellous Works That He Hath Done.** These words were part of David’s song in I Chron. 16:12. Each day we should recollect God’s Majesty (Psa. 29:4), God’s Power (Psa. 21:13), God’s Amazing Creation (Psa. 92:5) and “every good gift and every perfect gift” flowing from above (Jam. 1:17). Truly, God and His works are magnificent!

**4) Remember How Short My Time Is.** These words of the Psalmist ought to ring true in every man’s mind. Life, at best is brief, and unpredictable. It is compared to a “vapor” (Jam. 4:15), to “grass” and a “flower” (I Pet. 1:24), and to a “shadow that declineth” (Psa. 102:11). As we know not the day or hour of our departure from this Earth, may we be moved to obey God today (II Cor. 6:2).

**5) Remember Now Thy Creator In The Days Of Thy Youth.** This was the plea of the preacher in Eccl. 12:1. The time to obey God is in the youth of life. As man ages, troubles and problems begin to mount with his eyes (Eccl. 12:2), his hands, back and teeth (Eccl. 12:3), his sleeping patterns (Eccl. 12:4), his new-found fears (Eccl. 12:5), and his desire to live (Eccl. 12:5). Many who have been baptized in their later years have commonly said “I should have done it when I was younger!”

**6) Remember Lot's Wife.** This declaration of the Lord stems back to the events of Gen. 19:1-26 during which Lot’s wife, in disobedience to God’s command, “looked back.” God means what He says, and says what He means. Write that down!

How well are you remembering these? Do so, not only one day or weekend of the year, but each day. Your soul depends on it!

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## SOME THINGS TO FORGET

Larry R. Ping II

While it is true there are many things the Bible says to remember, were you aware there are some things it says we need to forget? Think about these three.

### 1) Forget My

**Complaint.** This was the cry of the oft-persecuted Job (Job 9:27). Not much good comes from complaining and murmuring, hence Paul penned “Do all things without murmurings and disputings” (Php. 2:14). The Lord tired quickly of the murmuring of the wandering Israelites (Num. 14:27), and even made mention of it hundreds of years later in I Cor. 10:10. Complaining existed in the early church (Acts 6:1) just as it does now. What is the best thing we can do with complaints? Forget them!

### 2) Forget Thy

**Misery.** Job’s friends were of little help, yet they uttered useful things from time to time. Zophar said “Because thou shalt forget thy misery, and remember it as waters

that pass away” (Job 11:16). In the midst of trial, it is good to remember it will pass, and better days will come. David wrote “weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning” (Psa. 30:5). In the days of Esther, the Jews were set to be exterminated, but through time, and God’s help, they went from “sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day” (Est. 9:22). This can be our experience too!

### 3) Forgetting Those Things Which Are Behind.

Paul wrote this is the “one thing I do” (Php. 3:13). Consider Paul’s past using his own words. He said he “was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious” (I Tim. 1:13). He iterated “I persecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women” (Acts 22:4). He articulated “when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him” (Acts 22:20). He

the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God” (I Cor. 15:9). Of his behavior he said “For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews’ religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it: And profited in the Jews’ religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers” (Gal. 1:13-14). Others asked “Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem” (Acts 9:21)? If anyone would have trouble forgetting their past, it would be Paul. But he sought forgiveness for those things, and did not let them weigh him down. We, too, must be willing to forget the forgiven errors of our past, and move on to do bigger and greater things. Some have little difficulty forgiving others, but great difficulty forgiving self. If God forgives, so can you!

### FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

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### MEETING TIMES (EST)

#### SUNDAY

Bible Study – 10:00 am

Worship – 11:00 am & 3:00 pm

#### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study – 7:00 pm